

# The Pittsylvania Packet

Spring 1995



No. 16

Pittsylvania Historical Society  
Chatham, Virginia

## REPORT BY THE PHS PRESIDENT

I'm rounding out two terms (four years) as president of the Pittsylvania Historical Society and as editor of **The Packet**.

These have been pleasant and educational years for me. The task has been much easier because of the fine support given by the officers and directors of the society.

I am proud to have been president of this organization that has some 550 members in 36 states of the USA who have paid their membership fees to belong.

Since I have held the office of president for four years, I decided it is time to pass the presidency on to another member who will bring in fresh ideas to our society.

I am real pleased that Herman Melton will succeed me as president. He has been a regular contributor to **The Packet** and is an author and historian. As the PHS president and editor of **The Packet**, you can be assured our society will be in "good hands."

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One of my wishes for the future is to urge the PHS to push to get a county museum.

There is a real need for such a facility in this area to store and exhibit the historical artifacts, heirlooms and valuable mementos of which many are available in this large county.

I can dream, can't I, with the hope that somebody, at sometime, will be willing to endow a county museum that will be named in honor of the benefactor -- or of a loved one.

- By PBM

### MRS. PAYNE TO TELL ABOUT HER NEW BOOK

A former distinguished president of the Pittsylvania Historical Society will be the speaker for the regular Monday, May 15 (at 7:30) meeting.

Mrs. Lucille Payne of Axton, VA will tell about her newly published book "These Inventories and Accounts Current," -- which she says: "Is the most interesting thing I have done as far as recording our county records."

Mrs. Payne is a former PHS President, and she along with her husband (Neil) were long time co-editors of the "Quill Pen," forerunner to **The Packet**.

Also on the May 15 program will be the elections of PHS officers for the next two-year term.

# Birch Creek Works County's Early Industry **Civil War Cannons Believed To Have Been Forged In Pittsylvania**

By Herman Melton

Moments before Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg, CSA Col. Porter Alexander dispatched the following message to his Corps Commander, Gen. James Longstreet: "When our artillery fire is doing its best, I shall advise Gen. Pickett to advance."

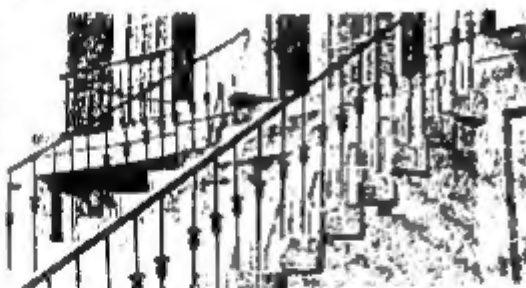
What followed was perhaps the most intensive artillery barrage of the Civil War. Historians calculate that Alexander, who coordinated the Confederate barrage had 172 guns firing on the Yankee defenders who answered with fire from 220 cannons.

Whereas it is pure conjecture that a few of Longstreet's big guns were forged in Pittsylvania County, the truth is that they could have. This argument can be advanced somewhat by a report appearing in *The Pittsylvania Tribune* in 1940 that Confederate cannons were manufactured at what was Pittsylvania's largest industrial complex at the time - "The Birch Creek Works."

To visit the ruins at the site of the Birch Creek Works is to realize that this industrial establishment probably had the facilities to produce cannons. Moreover, extant documents and correspondence of the institution at the time indicate the probability. Research among Confederate documents for proof by historians is necessary prior to romanticizing about Pittsylvania artillery weapons at the Battle of Gettysburg however.

Little has been written about The Birch Creek Works by county historians. This is ironic because it was apparently even larger in size than any iron works in Danville at the time. For the present day county history buff, its location, origin and activity should be of interest.

It came into being as a modest obscure little grist mill that was erected in a narrow gorge on Birch (or Burches) Creek in 1783. The builder was the Rev. John Creel, a Fauquier County native. Creel is better known as the founder of one of the first Baptist churches established in the county in 1770. The mill sat across the creek from the church and an active congregation maintains this church today on the same site. It is known as Old Mill Baptist Church. Creel died only four years after building the mill, and his heirs sold it to an interesting county historical figure. He was James Henry, a cousin of the patriot, Patrick Henry. The new owner was at that time the owner of the famous Henry's Mill which lay some five miles to the north. Henry held on to the mill and made it a



**CAST IRON BALUSTRADE AT  
 PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE,  
 CHATHAM, VA**

This ornamental iron work was built and installed in response to a Court Order issued February 20, 1854. It is known that this was built by Jacob Soura, who was a foundry foreman at the Birch Creek Works during 1853.

going concern until 1816 when he disposed of it to the partnership of Bird Womack and the prominent Beverley Barksdale.

A succession of owners followed for nearly two decades. Their family names included Jackson and Anderson. The latter was the prominent Banister Anderson who is credited with first increasing the scope of the operation before it passed into the hands of another duo - Flippin and Hightower. Their 1857 deed description mentioned "a dwelling house, a grist mill, a sawmill, a foundry, a machine and blacksmith shop and buildings containing machinery, fixtures and tools.

The owners brought in a Pennsylvania foundryman named Jacob Sours. He and his brother William were only recently the operators of the historic Washington Iron Works at Rocky Mount. Old Jacob's letters to his home while employed there provide good insight into the nature and scope of the operation of what was by now known as "The Birch Creek Works."

Sours wrote in May 1858 that one building was 175 feet long. He reported the manufacture of plow points, 32 threshing machines, five circular saws, two 20 hp steam engines plus many other items. He mentioned the casting of the fence for the Pittsylvania Courthouse. A portion of Jacob Sours work remains today as the balustrade for the Courthouse entrance steps.

An iron stove believed to have been designed by William Sours, is extant and is known as a "Flippin Stove." The Birch Creek Works manufactured the Flippin Patent Flue for tobacco barn curing. A specimen of this is also extant.

The most startling item in the history of the Birch Creek Works in existence is an 1974 invoice from Flippin and Hightower to Samuel Pannill Wilson of Windsor Farm at Cascade for the manufacture and installation of a complete grist mill with an iron 18' water-wheel.



**RUINS OF DAM ON BURCHES CREEK AT  
SITE OF BIRCH CREEK WORKS AT  
ATLAS, VA. NEAR LAUREL GROVE**

The Birch Creek Works boasted a grist mill, a sawmill, a foundry and a machine shop. Original mill was built here by the Rev. John Creel in 1783.

Another document notes the manufacture of a complete sawmill. Jacob Sours left when the Civil War erupted to join the Confederate Army, and no Civil War

## **YOU KNOW YOU'RE A GENEALOGIST ADDICT...**

- If you would rather browse a cemetery than a shopping mall.
- If you would rather read census schedule than a good book.
- When you know ever county clerk in your state by name.
- When you are more interested in what happened in 1794 than in 1994.
- When all your correspondence begins "Dear Cousin."

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historian mentions the Birch Creek Works as a supplier of Confederate armament.

Although tradition has it that the cannons were built there, as before stated, much research is needed for proof. The absence of documents notwithstanding, for the time being, tradition stands solidly on its own.

By 1893 the village there became known as Atlas and the postmaster and storekeeper was C.W. Flippin. Much of the complex was wiped out in the St. Patrick's Day Flood of 1912, but the rebuilt grist mill operated as Flippin's Mill until the 1930's. The magnificent old foundation stones and portions of the dam are impressive in what is now a pristine quietness. The beauty belies the fact that a noisy industrial park whirled away there nearly 150 years ago.

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*(Editor's Note: Herman Melton is a noted historian and author, and is the author of the book: "Pittsylvania's Nineteenth Century Grist Mills.")*

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## Inventories and Accounts Current Put In Book Form

One of the least known but most valuable records at the Courthouse in Pittsylvania County, Virginia are the Inventories and Accounts Current, the first being recorded in 1770. A new book just out, "Pittsylvania County, Virginia Inventories and Accounts Current 1770-1797," covers the first two books.

Approximately half of the entries in Books 1 & 2 are for persons who died intestate, thus making them important as a supplement to the recorded wills.

In addition to the inventories and accounts (including some in other counties or states), there are divisions of lands and estates (with name of wife and children), guardian accounts, store inventories, relinquishment of dowers (at times with the name of the "new" husband), and much more.

Many relationships are given, even for those persons who bought articles at the sale of an estate. One Patriot was listed with "part of salt and lead put into Country Service." Occupations are given when a person was paid for a particular service - - paid for building a chimney, nursing a sick horse, digging a cellar, following wheels and spokes for a wagon, and many others.

The most interesting part of the inventories and accounts is the listing of all items owned at the time of a death, giving an insight into the lifestyle of that particular family. Wouldn't you love to know that your ancestor owned a Pottle Bottle? Or a Tickler? What about the daughter who took dancing lessons wearing Calamanco shoes? The Glossary will aid in understanding this little known "language" of our ancestors.

The main index is full name for persons, but also includes rivers, other counties and states, creeks, fords and forks. A separate negro index, containing more than 400 names, makes it especially valuable for the African-American.

Since some of our ancestors, in addition to naming horses or mares, named their cattle, a smaller index is included for animals.

Order from PHS member: Lucille Payne, Rt. 2, Box 419, Axton, VA 24054. Printed by H. E. Howard, Inc. of Lynchburg, VA this hardcover book sells for \$24.95 plus \$2 postage. (Note: Lucille Payne is former president of Pittsylvania Historical Society for many years.)

## Genealogical Information Available About Virginia Vital Statistics

*In response to requests concerning records for genealogical research, the following information should be noted:*

The Archives Division, Virginia State Library and Archives, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3491, has copies of all existing Virginia birth and death records prior to 1896 and marriage records prior to 1936. These records are public information and are available on microfilm for use by the public. There is no charge for viewing the microfilm of these records. Copies of the microfilm may be lent to local Virginia libraries from the State Library and Archives.

Generally, for most areas of the State, records are available for the period 1853-1896. Any "Marriage Bonds" prior to 1853 that are still in existence would also be in the Virginia State Library and Archives, as would war records prior to and including the Civil War, deeds, wills and other court records.

Events that occurred in the portion of Virginia that is now West Virginia are recorded in the archives of the Division of Culture and History, Capitol Complex, Cultural Center, 1900 Boulevard East, Charleston, W.V. 25305-0300.

With the exception of the years 1896 to 1912, the Division of Vital Records has records of births, deaths, and marriages since 1853. There are no records prior to 1853, and there was no law for the registration of births and deaths between 1896 and June 14, 1912.

The Virginia Division of Vital Records is not equipped to do genealogical research; any such research should be done in the Archives Division of the Virginia State Library and Archives as indicated above. Copies of records which are known to be on file by a review of the Archives Division microfilm may be obtained from the Division of Vital Records upon application and payment of the fee of \$5 per copy. Applications for copies of records must include full names and dates and places (cities or counties) of the events.

In the Division of Vital Records, death, marriage and divorce data become public information fifty years from the date of the event, and birth records become public information after 100 years from the date of birth. As noted above, any birth, or death records from 1853 to 1896, and any marriage records from 1853 to 1936 at the State Library and Archives are public information (s 32.1-271.D, Code of Virginia).

The address is Virginia Department of Health, Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000.

- - From Portsmouth, VA Gen. Soc.  
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### BUMGARDNER FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION JUNE 13-15 IN KENTUCKY

Bumgardner's (Baumgardner's) family association mini-reunion will be held in Hart County, KY on June 13, 14, 15 1995 (Tues., - Thurs.) Headquarters will be at Day's Inn Cave City. Meet your cousins there! This is our first reunion. Contact hotel direct for reservations by calling to Cave City Day's Inn, P.O. Box 2009, Cave City, Ky (502)) Phone 800-325-2525. Banquets each of three nights \$36 per person for the three nights.

For information write or call Robert or Helen Bumgardner, 2700 Bayshore Blvd., Apt. 11-102, Dunedin, FL 34698-1603, Phone (813)-734-0344.

# Confederate Soldier Documents The Conditions Of Surrender Week 1865

By Henry H. Mitchell

During April 1865, Confederate Captain John Dooley of Richmond (who had been wounded, imprisoned, and paroled) traveled through Pittsylvania County on his way from Amherst Court House to Danville. Accompanied by his friend Ben Haskins, Dooley left Lynchburg on April 1, heading south through Campbell County. They have just heard of the fall of Richmond to Union forces."

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## Entering Pittsylvania By Pannill's Bridge

"Stragglers from Lee's army are flowing by us in crowds. The army is completely disorganized, and every one for himself is the sole idea. We borrowed a mule from a negro boy named Hiram.

"On this horrowed nag, we move briskly and soon approach Pannill's Bridge (at Green Hill Plantation on the Staunton River at Long Island), though a portion of the State that has never felt the scorching breath of war or drunk the warm life blood of the South's bravest men. Here rise tall fences enclosing rich pastures, fields of waving wheat and sprouting corn. But the plenty scattered here appears in strange contrast with the desolation and exhaustion of the rest of the State.

"No Yankees are as yet in sight but our own cavalry are straggling across the bridge by scores; also the infantry skulking from their regiments, invalids, trumpeters, etc. The country is full of deserters, and judging from his detached forces, the army under Gen. Lee's immediate command must be reduced to a few thousand men. We heard cannonading all the morning in the direction of Appomattox station and the stragglers report that Lee lost 60 pieces of artillery and is retreating upon Lynchburg."

## Losing Their Mule At Riceville

"Arriving at Riceville wet and weary, we fall in with a pressing gang who demand our fine and faithful mule for the service of the Confederate Government. We are at first disposed to resent this highway assault, but the pressing officers are polite and impressive, shewing us their papers and orders for doing this forcible deed. Upon examination we find their papers correct and part with our valuable friend with much regret.

"In order not to incommode us too much these agents of the government give us a small lazy and almost broken down affair (in the shape of a mule) and giving Hiram (the colored boy, donor of the mule) \$10 extra we prevail upon him to take us five miles further on our route. Poor Hiram! The large tears trickle down his cheeks at the thought of his lost mule, and he frequently bursts out with, "What'll poor old massa say about this thing? He beats the present mule unmercifully however, partly I suppose because the beast is slow, partly to smother his indignation and in sorrowful remembrance of the other which was so much superior to his present successor..."

## Overnight With The Jackson Family

"We stop for the night at the house of a Mr. Jackson. While we are drying our clothes by a large log fire, his daughters prepare a meal for us which is to be considered dinner and supper together.

"There are three daughters, one grown, another about 15, and the third about 11. While we are eating these young damsels come in the dining room, gaze at

us for a while, titter and then retire; this amusement they keep up until a late hour of the night, coming to the door and peeping through the cracks, giggling and running away."

### On To Danville

"We proceed towards Danville, accompanied by Mr. Jackson's young son ... By and by young Jackson points out a house by the road side where he thinks we can get some apple brandy. We enter and a nice and gentle woman with a sad expression of countenance consents to sell us a pint (for accommodation sake), but is far more concerned for her absent husband whom she fears has been killed in the recent battles. A little infant lies sweetly sleeping in its crib and smiling in its sleep, and an older child is making great sport with the cat upon the floor, but unconscious of their father's death and their mother's woe.

"We divide the brandy, but I think young Jackson gets the largest share for he very soon after as we resume our journey shows unmistakable signs of elevation; doffing his hat and twirling it high in air he puts his nag to redoubled speed and bids us follow him.

"As we approach Danville the roads become thronged with stragglers of all descriptions, wagon loads of people and their effects, moving into Danville, and crowds moving from the town. No one appears to have any settled conviction of what they are going to do or what the government is going to do. All is confusion and panic. Jackson in spite of his father's commands, urged on by curiosity and the desire of another treat, and the apple brandy god impelling,

## PHS Gets 29 Brand New Members In Recent Weeks

Jeannette Brown, PHS membership secretary says 29 "brand new" members have come in during the recent weeks and added: "We are justly proud of this new interest in our society." (Note renewals start in May)

The names of the brand new members are listed below:

Elizabeth L. Griffin, Greenbush, MA; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Guill, Danville, VA; Shelby P. Shehee, Amelia, VA; Charles D. Mattox, Lynch Station, VA; Debbie Hisey, Creswell, OR; Maury H. Moses, Chatham, VA;

Linda Van Buren, London, United Kingdom; Robert A. Amos, Towson, MD; John S. Combs, Denton, TX; Mrs. Mary N. Singer, Mt. Holly, NJ; Sandra D. Wans, Boomer, NC; Margaret F. Davis, Hanahan, SC;

Susan W. Hanisec, Riverside, CA; Fay H. Francis, Danville, VA; Walter and Ellen Sisom, Parsippany, NH; Thomas L. Hooker, Palmyra, VA; Samuel W. Swanson Jr., Callands, VA; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Koepp, Thousand Oaks, CA; John R. Thompson Jr., Chesapeake, VA;

A. Frank Tate Jr., Putaski, TN; Barry and Cynthia Warren, Mason Neck, VA; E. Margaret Baker, Orleans, IN; Dwayne V. Tompkins, Strongsville, OH; Mrs. Harvey Adams, Fayetteville, NC.

Walter S. Cox, South Boston, VA; Glenn (Scip) Boetz, Topeka, KS; James N. McGhee, Bartlett, TN; James M. Hudson, Leesburg, VA; and Billy J. Gullett, Hawkins, TX.



takes us all the way to Danville.

"Here not finding any places open where we could treat him, we send him back giving him five dollars with which to treat himself. I doubt a little if he got back safe with horses and buggy for such articles are in constant demand by many loose and roguish stragglers."

#### Danville in Chaos

"Danville is in a perfect uproar. The President and his Cabinet were here last night and hearing officially of Lee's surrender left these parts for Greensboro, NC...Large crowds of savage and blood thirsty stragglers parade the streets and appear awaiting an opportunity to do some ugly deed."

#### Observation On A Southern "Genealogist"

"Dooley and Haskins continue on to Yanceyville, High Point, Salisbury (where they see the Jefferson Davis encourage), and Charlotte before turning back toward Richmond. North of Greensboro they are inconvenienced by a collapsed rail bridge and stay at the home of an old friend George Bethel, where Dooley wrote the following observation.

"George Bethel is extremely lazy, but neither his brother William or his father is of indolent habits. I believe in most Southern families that are well to do there is nearly always one son constituting the sporting member of the family, who makes it his especial business and duty to keep up the honor of the house by fine horses, hounds, talking of his ancestry, etc., and to do nothing else; and people who write so much about Southern pride, wealth, and indolence, take their impressions generally from these worthless but petted members of the family."

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*Note: John Dooley's writing of the war era were published as John Dooley, Confederate Soldier, His War Journal, edited by Joseph T. Durkin, S.J., Georgetown University Press, 1945.*

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## New Book About J.E.B. Stuart Is Coming Off Press in June

The new book by Robert J. Trout, entitled "With Pen and Saber: The Letters and Diaries of J.E. B. Stuart's Staff Officers" will be out in June 1995, and you may order through the author at 119 North Railroad Street, Myerstown, PA 17067 at \$24.95 plus \$3 postage. Mr. Trout will autograph the copies.

The author has two other books in print. "They Follow The Plume: The Story of J.E.B. Stuart and His Staff," and "Riding With Stuart: Reminiscences of an Aide-De-Camp."

"With Pen and Saber" is a companion book to "They Follow The Plume," but I wrote it so it could stand on its own as can the other book," says Trout.

The two together give a very detailed look at Stuart, his staff and behind the scenes events, as well as the campaigns and battles, cavalry headquarters along with a close look at some of the officers' private lives and how the war effected them. Much of the material is available nowhere else.

Forty-eight men served on the staff of Major General Stuart from September 24, 1861 until his death on May 12, 1864 after the battle of Yellow Tavern. These men wrote home to loved ones or kept diaries and were the eyewitnesses to history in the making.

All this is presented in chronological order with explanation notes.

# Do You Happen To Know The Meaning Of Your First Name

By Sarah E. Mitchell

When readers are researching their family genealogy, they may find that in some records full names are recorded, sometimes foreign names (which are later changed to the English form), and occasionally nicknames. Listed below are some popular first names, their variations, and some foreign forms.

**Ann** (means grace): Derivatives are Ance, Annie, Annice, Annika, Annike, Annah, Annali, Annan, Anna, Nan, Nancy, Nanette and Nannie. Anne, Annetta and Annetie are French forms; Hanna the German form; Ana the Portuguese; and Anna the Swedish, Austrian and Hungarian form.

**Edward** (means rich guardian): Derivatives are Ed, Ned, Eddy, Eddie, Ted, and Teddy. (Ted and Teddy are also short for Theodore). Edouard is the French form.

**Elizabeth** (means consecrated to God or God's oath): Derivatives are Eliza, Elissa, Elsie, Elise, Elisa, Elisabet (Elisabet is the original Greek spelling), Elspie, Lisabette, Lisabetta, Lisbet, Lisbeth, Alisa, Lisa, Lisel, Liselle, Lisetta, Lisette, Lizzie, Lizzy, Lib, Libby, Libbie, Liz, Lisa, Tetsy, Tetty, Tibbie, Beth, Bethia, Betsu, Betsey, Bettie, Bettina, Betty, Bet, Bess, Bessie, and Bessy. Elspeth is the Scottish form; Elsie and Elisabeth are French forms; Lusa is the Finnish form; Erzsébet is the Hungarian form; Elisabeth and Lise are German forms.

**John** (means God's gracious gift): Derivatives are Johnny, Jack, and Jock (popular in Northern England and Scotland). Johannes is the German and Swiss form; Jani, Johan, Jussi and Jukka are the Finnish forms; Ian is the Scottish form; Sean is the Irish form; Jean is the French form; Ivan is the Russian form; Juan is the Spanish form; Johan is the Swedish form; Jone and Evan are the Welsh forms; and Giovanni is the Italian form.

**Margaret** (means pearl or child of light): Derivatives are Marsali, Margie, Marge, Madge, Maggie, Maggy, Mamie, Meg, Mag, Peggy and Peg. Margarete is the German form; Margot and Marguerite are French forms; Margarita is the Spanish form; Margareta is the Swedish form; Margherita is the Italian form;

## Over 5,000 Years You'll Have 1,048,576 Ancestors

For your arrival on this planet, it required two people, a mother and father. Their existence required your four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, sixteen great-great-grandparents and thirty-two great-great-great-grandparents.

There is an average of twenty-five years between each generation. If you are doing genealogical research, count the ancestors in the last five hundred years before you were born, and there would be a total of 1,048,576 people you would have to research.

No wonder genealogy is such a fascinating obsession.

Margit is the Hungarian form, Margret the Icelandic, Margarete is the Austrian form, Marija is the Finnish form, Margand the Armenian form, and Margrethe is the Danish form.

Martha (means lady or sorrowful); Derivatives are Marie, Marta, Marty, Matty, Patty, and Patsy (note Martha "Patsy" Washington). Marta is a German and Hungarian form, Marthe is the French form.

Mary (means bitter tears); Derivatives are Molly, Molley, Polly, Pooley, Mol, Marya, Maryse, Marysia, Mara, Marah, Mal, Mayme, Maion, Maisie, Mameie and Mally. Marie is the French and Czech form, Maria is the Austrian, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Swedish, Swiss (where it is often used for men in combination with masculine names), Spanish and German form. Maire is the Irish form; Men is a Greek form; and Manju is the Finnish form.

Sarah (means princess); Derivatives are Sara, Sal, Sally, Salicy, Salie, Sadie, Sadey, Sada and Sada. Sara is both the German and French form.

Susannah or Susanna (means lily); Derivatives are Susan, Susie, Sue, Sukey, Susette, Suzie, Suzy, Suzette, Suzanne and Suzanna. Suzanne is the French and Italian form, Zsuzsanna is the Hungarian form.

William (means resolute protector); Derivatives are Will, Willis, Willie (considered in the 19th century to be a rather namby-pamby form), Wally, Bill, Billie (this can be a girl's or boy's name) and Billy. Guillaume is the French form, Wilhelm the German and Swedish form; Vilhelm the Danish, Viljo is the Finnish form; and Vilem the Czech.

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## DID YOU KNOW YOU MAY HAVE 33,554,432 ANCESTORS?

Going back twenty-five generations, you have 33,554,432 ancestors - enough to people a country rather than fill a room....The assumption that one had 33,554,432 grandparents twenty-five generations ago is more a mathematical than a genetic certainty.

Assuming that there were five generations to a century, it is apparent that, at least for persons of British origin, many of the ancestors must have been the same individuals who were our grandparents many times over through different lines of descent.

It is estimated that the entire population of the British Isles in 1500 was four million or fewer. If every person then living had given birth to offspring, all of whom lived, he would on average have been a grandparent of each person of British descent 8.38 times.

Of course, the actual number must be higher. Many persons living in 1500 would have died without offspring, and some of those offspring would not have had descendants who survived for more than a few generations.

In effect, almost everyone descended from the small British populations of five centuries ago must be related.

-- from *The Great Reckoning*

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## SURNAMES ARE SPELLED MANY DIFFERENT WAYS

A surname may be spelled in many different ways, and you'll find that to be true when researching a surname you are interested in and find it has been differently spelled.

Test this out, ask a genealogical friend - or your neighbor to spell the name that you pronounce, and you'll be surprised at the different spellings you will get.

No wonder you can't always depend on the records of the census taker!!

### 3 Act Play Written By Helen Melton **'The Last Man Hanged' Is True Story About County Murder**

**By Helen Melton**

Although the murder trial of Walter Hamilton Yeatts is well-known among county people many of the most interesting details were found this year when Margaret Midkiff, a Gretna native, was researching her family.

Margaret's research was done primarily in two repositories. The Pittsylvania County Clerk's Office in Chatham and Jones Memorial Library in Lynchburg, VA. Ham Yeatts was a kinsman of Margaret Midkiff's.

The murder and resulting trial has become the basis for *The Last Man Hanged*, a three-act play written by Helen Melton who writes as Kenyon McCann, and who is the author of "Ride Into Darkness," her first book.

The names of those involved have been used in entirety since all of the principals were important to the county's history. W. I. (Uncle Buck) Overbey was sheriff during this time, Hezekiah Pigg was editor of the county newspaper, Robert H. Fredway and George W. Kison were local attorneys, Raleigh Martin was the village doctor and Horatio Davis was the sitting judge.

Mrs. McCann is indebted to Margaret Midkiff for her painstaking, careful research, and her graciousness in sharing and allowing use of it in the play. The incident is important not only because it mirrors base human emotions but because Ham's death was the last public hanging to take place in Pittsylvania County. After that time, all who were sentenced to be hanged were taken to Richmond by order of Governor Cameron.

Walter Hamilton Yeatts from the Straightstone area of Pittsylvania County married Fanny Rorer on January 2, 1882. Fanny was a beautiful but flirtatious young lady from the Brights neighborhood.

Although Fanny was in love with Pressley Adkinsen, he was not a marrying kind of man - though he had dated Fanny. But, Fanny's family was afraid that she would be an old maid and swore that she must marry before year's end. Her mother and father finally talked her into settling for Ham Yeatts. Their

## **NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR PHS MEMBERSHIP FOR 1994-95**

**Make \$10 check payable to:  
 PITTSYLVANIA HISTORICAL  
 SOCIETY**

**Mail to:**

**Jeannette Brown**

**Route 1, Box 8K6, Chatham, VA 24531**

reasoning 'Ham' came from a very good family, and he was very much in love with Fanny. In reality, 'Ham' was an irresponsible young man in his late twenties who had never even held a job.

After the wedding, during the reception, 'Ham' overheard the whisperings of some of his young friends. They were laughing about the fact that Fanny was no virgin saying that 'Ham's' best friend and roommate had been the culprit. 'Ham' confronted Fanny who did not deny his accusation. Enraged, 'Ham' left Fanny on their wedding night to return to Sycamore Station where Pressley ran a general store and was station agent for the railroad.

The next afternoon, February 3rd, 'Ham' talked Pressley into walking with him down the railroad tracks toward Motley Station, after he'd closed the store. When they were in a remote area, he confronted his friend, and Pressley did not deny the accusation.

'Ham' pulled out a gun he'd earlier borrowed from Pressley and killed him. Afterward, he went through the dead man's pockets and took his purse which contained a great deal of money, his keys, gloves - everything - before dumping his body in a ravine and covering it with brush.

'Ham' was apprehended the following day in Bristol, VA and returned to the county seat, Chatham. He pled not guilty, accusing a local black man whose employer, a man known for truth, swore that the accused was with him the entire night of the murder nursing a sick cow.

'Ham' was found guilty and sentenced to hang August 3rd on gallows located in the courthouse area. Fanny Rorer, the beautiful young woman who was responsible for the death of her lover as well as her husband married again, twice.

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*(Editor's Note: Helen Melton is a member of the Puttsylvania Historical Society. She lives in Chatham, VA, and this play is Mrs. Melton's second venture into the literary field.)*

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## DOES ANYONE HAVE ANSWER TO NAME AND NICKNAME PROBLEM?

Can anyone help Mrs. Harold Miller who said she is having a problem with names and nicknames.

Mrs. Miller points out that girls named Mary are often called "Polly," and Margaret can be called "Peggy." But she said, "I find that Nancy and Ann are interchangeable, and just the other day I read that Lucindas can be called "Nancy."

Mrs. Miller went on to say "I am sure about Nancy, Ann but what about Lucinda? Is that correct? Do you have a list of names and nicknames that were common in the past? Could I be the only one that isn't familiar with the traditions?"

Mrs. Miller suggested publishing a list in a future issue of **The Packet**. "I like to think others need this information as much as I do," she added.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: If anyone can offer the answer to this name and nickname problem, please write to Mrs. Harold Edward Miller, 1684 Fifth Rd., Inverness, IL 60067 and also **The Packet**.)

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Rhode Island really helps genealogists. They're offering to check their birth-marriage-death files for your ancestor for free. They charge 50 cents for copies. Send a SASE to State House, Providence, RI 02903



# How Tightsqueeze VA Really Got Its Name



By Preston Moses

The Pittsylvania Tribune in September 1874 had this advertisement which read, "Parker's Hair Balsam solves your hair problems - solves falling hair, grey hair, promotes new growth. It is highly perfumed, not a dye. 50 cents per bottle. Get it at W H Colbert General Store at Tightsqueeze (VA)."

This was 120 years ago when W H Colbert had a big store at the crossroads on the Charma-Danville main highway at a place called Tightsqueeze. The highway was a narrow dirt road, mud in the winter and dust in the summer.

Let me tell you how Tightsqueeze got its rather odd name.

When Colbert built his store in 1870, he put it right up to the edge of the dirt road (so that ladies riding in carriages could step out of carriages onto the porch of the store building).

Isaiah Giles built a blacksmith-wheelwright shop right across the road directly in front of Colbert's Store, and he too built right up to the edge of the road.

Colbert voiced complaint that Giles was putting his building to the edge of the road in front of his store. Giles contended that if Colbert could put his store building in the edge of the road, he could too.

When the drivers of the buggies and wagons came galloping down the road at high speeds, they had to slow down to a walking pace to pass through the narrow passage between the two buildings.

People traveling over this section of the road began warning others to be sure to slow down for the tight squeeze at Colbert's Store .. and that is how the area became known as Tightsqueeze.

Colbert's Store is no longer there being replaced by the nearby "Tightsqueeze Shopping Plaza." The blacksmith-wheelwright shop has been replaced by two modern service stations that supply the fuel to the autos that go whizzing by

over the dual lane highway

Some 15 years ago the board of supervisors changed the name of Tightsqueeze to "Fairview." The people of the community rose up in protest, and the name of Tightsqueeze was restored. (The board member who made the motion to replace the name of Tightsqueeze was not reelected.) Time Magazine took notice of the controversy about the name change and did a feature story about Tightsqueeze.

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## The Fellows Got To See Ladies' Legs During The Era Of Stepping Stones

By Preston B. Moses

Oh, sure, I remember when our town had stepping stones to cross the street! That was when Main Street was a dirt road: there was mud after a rain, and inch-thick dust in the summer.

The town had brick or plank sidewalks on each side of Main Street. To avoid getting your shoes muddy or dusty, you'd use the stepping stones to cross to the other side of the street.

The stepping stones were large flat stones (or rocks) that were planted halfway into the ground leaving about 12 inches protruding above the level of the street. It required about eight to 12 stones to stretch across the dirt road. The stepping stones were spaced apart about the normal stride of an individual.

There were six sets of stepping stones along Main Street. The busiest was the crossing in front of the court house at the center of the town.

The other busy set was in front of the hotel that crossed over to the saloon - drug store combination.

Woe to the person who missed his footing when crossing on the stepping stones after a heavy rain. A missed step would land him into mud over his shoe-tops.

Of course, the stepping stones could be a hazard for some of those fellows coming out of one of the 20 barrooms - saloons along Main Street (before the town voted dry in 1912).

When the Model T Fords came chugging along Main Street at 10 MPH, the drivers had to watch out for the stepping stones, and be sure to straddle them to avoid sinking one of the stones that would blow out the front tires.

It was interesting when the ladies with their long flowing dresses crossed on the stepping stones. It always attracted the full attention of the men folks, who watched as the ladies prudently lifted their skirts as they tripped gingerly crossing the street on the stepping stones.

After watching the ladies, there's always be some guy in the group who would remark, "Ain't she got pretty legs". When in reality he never saw much above her ankles.

On the other hand, it was said that some of the more pert young girls of the town would hold their skirts a tempting bit higher than others when crossing on the stepping stones, depending of course on the shape of their legs. Jer, er, I mean, limbs.

The stepping stones disappeared when the town council took a progressive move and put down cobble stones along Main Street around 1917. This did away with mud and dust, but the cobble stone street was awful hard on the remaining horses. It was also really bumpy for the passengers riding in their new \$495 Ford automobiles.

# Letter Gives All Details Of 1902 Chatham Wedding

By Patricia B. Mitchell

*The following letter written by Watt Whitehead to his daughter Parke (who later married a tobaccoist named Foot Woodings) describes an Edwardian wedding. This letter was provided courtesy of Nancy J. Phillipson.*

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Chatham, VA.

June 19, 1902

"I attended the marriage of Miss Nora Shields and everything was up in date. The church (Chatham Baptist) was carpeted completely in black cotton, the pulpit and choir gallery were beautifully decorated in posed plants and flowers of every hue and kind. fern leaves bore a conspicuous part in the decorations. the initials of the contracting parties were inscribed in large letters on the choir gallery, beautiful lamps reflecting lights of many hues were arranged in up to date style, placed in various places on the pulpit. Then all the windows were decorated with flowers of all kinds. The doors were hung in Nottingham balls decorated profusely with palms of fern leaves. This completes my description of the church.

The crowd was large, house and gallery packed, a few vacant seats reserved for family and relations. We got there rather late but after manipulating with the ushers, I managed to get my crowd on the front seat in the Amen Corner. Very few were so fortunate. We looked upon the crowd with some degree of sympathy as the thermometer then registered about 100 degrees F. and the gallery about 120 degrees F. but with the vigorous use of fans, they managed to pull through, all right.

Promptly at half past eight, the great organ pealed forth on the Wedding March shaking this old church from center to circumference. Then I saw a little girl come down the aisle beautifully attired in white, bearing in her hands something like a cushion. I did not know what this meant. I suppose it was the Wedding Ring. Then I saw a beautiful girl arrayed in white, with a long train, and bearing beautiful flowers step down from a side door and simultaneously a young man arrayed in a 20th century suit, step down from the other door. They moved slowly and ghostly. They met, crossed over and disappeared at the front of the church. Then I saw two more act in the same way and then two others and then two others, all dressed alike and all disappeared as did the first couple. Then I looked and lo! the first couple came back from the front door, lady in one aisle, man in the other. They met, converged at their places in front of the pulpit, then another couple, then another, then another.

While gazing on and admiring this array of youth and beauty I looked again and beheld Bro. Ayler approaching from a side door. His look was grave, and his shoulders fit to bear the weight of mightiest monarchies, he took his stand in front of the pulpit. My gaze was directed toward the front door and I beheld a beautiful object (Mollie Shields) approaching the altar (She is the maid of honor).

Then I looked again and saw the bride approaching, almost enveloped in white tulle, and then I heard a scrambling at my side and saw the bridegroom with his

best man coming from the rear door. They met in front of the altar, and then the organ softened its tones and amid a deathly stillness we listened to the marriage vows. The ceremony was short, owing to the fact that the bride had a slight hemorrhage just before entering the church. It was thought best by the doctor to cut it short.

After they were pronounced man and wife and a short prayer invoking blessings on their heads, this array of beauty slowly disappeared and then the congregation broke up and returned to their homes. Upon the whole it was quite a pretty marriage."

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*Note Wyatt Whitehead describes the wedding of Maude Carter Clement in the next edition of The Packet*

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### IT IS REALLY A SMALL WORLD!

For the past five years or so I have been working on my families (Bays, Bingham, Jland and allied families) who lived in Pittsylvania around 1750-1830 (they then moved onto Indiana, then Nebraska).

Well, just a couple of months ago I began seriously looking into my husband's family lines. Would you believe that I found them in Pittsylvania County. No, we're not technically cousins...but it sure is close!

This is convoluted, but his Julius and Quicher families intermarried with Saunders, Mays and others. Many of whom also intermarried with my Bays and Bingham.

In fact, Ila Dulin (A Packet reader in Vinton, IA) and I have been corresponding regarding our Mays and Saunders connections. Ila and I are cousins by two marriages. Lo and behold! Ila and my husband Gary really are cousins.

It really is a small world, isn't it?

- - Sue Kottwitz, Bittersweet Ridge Farm, Route 1, Box 50,  
Falsen, MO 65470.

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### POLYGAMY IN GERMANY 1618-1684

In the years following the Thirty Years War, 1618-1684, when the population of what is now Germany fell from 16 million to about 4 million people. In order to repopulate devastated areas, teenagers were encouraged to marry young priests were permitted to marry to raise families and polygamy was advocated and sanctioned. A law in 1650 gave men in northern Bavaria permission to have up to 10 wives at the same time. In your research from 1650-1700, keep the possibility of polygamy in mind.

- - The Chisholm Trail

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### ABBY CRAWFORD MILTON WOMAN SUFFRAGE LEADER

Abby Crawford Milton, a leader in the woman suffrage movement more than 70 years, died 3 May 1991 in Clearwater, FL at age 110. As president of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage Association, she led the fight for ratification of the 19th amendment which gave women the right to vote in 1920. She then became the first president of the Tennessee League of Women Voters.

- - The Crawford Exchange, Seattle, WA

## Interesting, Amusing Items Gleaned From Old Newspapers

*I have looked through some of the old issues of the Pittsylvania Tribune and gleaned a few interesting news items, personal notes and amusing advertisements. I am reprinting them here*

*- - Editor of The Packet*

\*\*\*\*\*

On the front page of the Tribune July 1892 was this political story: Democrats meeting in Chicago nominated ex-president Grover Cleveland as the Democrat candidate for President on the first ballot and nominated General Adelia Stephenson as the Vice-President candidate.

The Democrats adopted as the over-riding campaign issues for the coming election to be focused on promoting education and lightening the tax burden on landowners and labor people.

*(Note: Politics hasn't changed. These are the same issues today in 1995.)*

\*\*\*\*\*

The Sept. 1890 Tribune had this public notice from the Pittsylvania County (VA) School Trustees which read "NOTICE: In order to promote the cause of religion and procure a reverence of God and a proper appreciation of His Word, we deem it necessary and proper, and we do instruct teachers of Pittsylvania County Public Schools to open the schools each morning with prayer and reading of a portion of the Scripture, not exceeding 15 minutes.

This resolution is thus adopted by the Pittsylvania County School Trustees. Signed by F. B. Watson Sr., Superintendent.

\*\*\*\*\*

Political advertisement in the October 1899 Tribune directed To The Voters Of Pittsylvania County: "Since this issue has been raised in this campaign, I want the voters to know that I am definitely opposed to the use of money and whiskey in elections. Signed J.R. Reynolds, candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates from Pittsylvania County.

*(P.S. He didn't get elected.)*

\*\*\*\*\*

This advertisement was in the Tribune in 1892 (when there were some 20 saloons or places where whiskey could be purchased in Chatham, VA). The ad read "Why should you work so hard to get riches, when you can get that Rich feeling at Walker's Bar-room at a cost of only 15 cents a glass."

\*\*\*\*\*

W. G. Turner who had a saloon on Main Street, Chatham had this ad in the same issue of the Tribune which read "Don't feel depressed or sad. Come by and I can make you smile with some of my old 'Laughing Brand' corn whiskey. W. G. Walker's Saloon, next to the drug store in Chatham.

\*\*\*\*\*

How about this bargain price? in the February 1907 Tribune: "Phone in your prescription to Chatham Pharmacy. We will fill it just as your doctor intended to be \$2, and we will deliver it to your home."

\*\*\*\*\*

Here's a news story on the front page of the Feb. 1907 Tribune. "Sheriff



She-horse says the RR will no longer run rough-shod over the citizens of this community by holding up traffic for long periods of time at the RR crossing at the Chatham depot.

"The sheriff promises to put deputies at the station to keep the freight trains from blocking the RR crossing for long periods of time."

*(Note Sheriff Shethorse was running for re-election in that year's election)*

\*\*\*\*\*

The 1934 Tribune had this news article: "County agent Jim E. Stone says 100 men will be hired this summer to check tobacco acreage under the government control program. Stone says the men doing the checking will be paid \$3 per day."

*(Note. How does \$3 per day in 1934 compare with \$4.25 per hour minimum wage of 1994?)*

\*\*\*\*\*

This advertisement was in the 1890 Tribune. "A brand new discovery on how to end mind wandering and stop memory loss now available. Write for new book. 50 cents. Professor Albert Loossem Company, 239 Fifth Ave., NYC."

*(Note. I hope this company is still in business, I want to write and get this book!)*

\*\*\*\*\*

### THIS IS BREATHTAKING!

What do you do 18 times a minute, 1,080 times an hour, 25,920 times a day yet you rarely notice? The answer You breathe! If you are 40 years old, you have already taken more than 378 million breaths.

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### CHAIN REACTION

A dozen doves were feeding there, observed by a feline stranger,  
not one of the doves seemed aware of the impending danger.

Neither was the cat aware two eyes had him in view

A mongrel dog approaching there was only passing through.

The dog tore after the cat, causing the doves to flee

To a natural habitat, the safety of a nearby tree.

Speaking of the cat, Whatever happened to him?

Just below the doves, sat the cat, safe on a limb.

- - Contributed by James W. Faucette, Hillsborough, NC

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### ODE TO THE IRS

Taxes and prices are rising,

And it's becoming increasingly clear,

You not only can't take it with you

But you can't even keep it while here

- - The Crawford Exchange, Seattle, WA

\*\*\*\*\*

The nice thing about greenbacks is that it never clashes with anything you are wearing

\*\*\*\*\*

If it's true that the world is getting smaller, why is it that the price of stamps is always going up?

\*\*\*\*\*

Those who indulge -- bulge!

## Led Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg

# Doctor Rawley Martin Became Colonel in War

After receiving a medical degree in 1858, a Pennsylvania physician became widely known for his gentleness with patients.

Yet, in four years he took part in the bitter encounter at Gettysburg and stormed across a full mile of open ground to mount a stone wall defended by a throng of enemy federal troops.

This compassionate healer had been changed by a stroke of fate into the command of the 53rd Regiment of the Virginia Volunteers.

At the head of the unit he led the famous Pickett's Charge like a man possessed across the battlefield as hundreds of his fellow Southerners fell under the withering fire from the stone wall on the mountain top.

At last he and a small number of companions captured an artillery battery left alone by retreating Yankees.

Amid wild confusion, his commander said, "Colonel, we can't stay here."

The doctor-turned-warrior shouted, "Then we'll go forward."

Only a few of Martin's men had survived the ordeal to this point in the charge up the mountain, and fewer still would see the sun set that day. But those remaining used their empty muskets as clubs when the battle was fought hand-to-hand. Survivors told of flagstaves and barrel staves being used as weapons.

But reinforcements failed to come, and the Confederates had to fall back.

Col. Martin sustained a bullet wound in the left leg and was incapable of further action. After Confederate forces had been forced to retreat, Union hospitalmen took him prisoner and carried him to the safety of an area behind the Federal lines.

Little has been learned of the months which followed in the life of Rawley Martin while in the northern prison.

When he was again able to write to his loved ones, he did express admiration for the northern personnel who had watched over him. Referring to them as "friends," he reported that the ladies there "know how to take care of wounded Rebs."

In spite of the care given him by his new friends, the colonel remained



**Dr. Rawley Martin**

true to the mission of the 53rd Regiment

"Pray for me and for the success of the Confederate cause .," said a letter to his father

In time, Colonel Martin recovered and was exchanged and returned to duty. His selection to the rank of brigadier general was on its way when he surrender of Confederate forces made it meaningless.

An outstanding officer, one who had fought well - who had penetrated enemy territory the farthest - who had won the admiration of thousands of his fellows - may well have traced on his position of prominence to his own advantage at the end of the war. But not Rawley Martin.

A most remarkable phase of his career was yet to come.

He returned to the practice of medicine, striking from his mind the bitter conflict, the exhausting marches, the miserable months in prison and in the camps and the extreme peril of close combat.

He was chosen to serve on the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, as president of the State Board of Health, as president of the Virginia Medical Examining Board and as president of the Medical Society of Virginia.

With the war ended, Dr. Rawley Martin was again the gentle practitioner of the healing arts. Again his prime concern was the saving of human life.

*(A life-sized bronze bust of Dr. Martin is in the Pennsylvania Historical Society 1813 Clerk's Office Museum. From the Quill Pen.)*

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### EARLY TAX LISTS NOT MILITARY LISTS

"Beginning in 1782 there are Tax Lists, both land and personal property, for all Virginia counties, with a few minor exceptions...In the earlier years of these records the men responsible for compiling the lists were the county militia officers and the earlier lists are arranged by militia districts in each county. This arrangement has led to some misunderstanding in that some printed sources, namely, "Kehley's Virginia Frontier," the Personal Property Tax Lists have been called militia lists. They are not militia lists, and they have nothing to do with any type of military service.

"The Land Tax Lists for 1782 include the name of the taxpayer, his total acreage, the value of his land per acre, the total value, and the amount of his taxes..."

- Tidewater Virginia Families by Linda Starr

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### ANCESTOR OF COAL MINER

If an ancestor was a coal miner, an information source might be the Eastern Regional Coal Archives, Craft Memorial Library, 600 Commerce St., Bluefield, WVA 24701. Dr. Stuart McGehee is the archivist.

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### MEXICAN WAR VETERANS

The descendants of Mexican War Veterans offers to check the Mexican War Pension Index free of charge. Write DMWV National Office, 114 Pacific, Richardson, TX 75081

Difficult to comprehend**Many Changes Have Been Made In Last 100 Years**

Mary Elizabeth Damarce Morse of Roanoke, TX celebrated her 100th birthday last September

The Philips Newsletter points out in a very graphic manner that despite the miracles of modern science and technology, few of us will reach the 100 year milestone that Mary achieved.

It is difficult, if nearly impossible to comprehend the myriad of historical, technological, social, cultural and other changes which occurred in the last one hundred years.

Perhaps the following nostalgic reminders will help us appreciate some of the memories that we can have on looking back over the past 100 years.

The Spanish-American War started when Mary was four. At age 23 she saw our boys march off to the battlefields of Europe when America was drawn into World War I in 1917. Mary watched again, with sadness, as Americans died on battlefields in the conflicts of the second World War, Korea and Vietnam and the Persian Gulf.

There were 44 states in the Union when Mary was born and Grover Cleveland served as 24th President of the United States. Eighteen more reached the Presidency during her life - McKinley, T. Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover, FDR, HST, Ike, JFK, LBJ, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton. Mary has outlived all but five of them.

Mary witnessed the first of many things to arrive throughout her long life including radio, silent film, sound film, B & W television, color television.

Automobile, interstate highway, gasoline station, traffic light, automobile fatality, airplane, airport, air mail, transatlantic flight, transcontinental flight, airplane fatality.

Ice cream cone, razor blade, permanent wave, zipper, long distance call, neon sign, transistor, computer, X-ray, Xerox machine, lead pencil, artificial heart, heart transplant, artificial satellite, roller coaster, artificial heart valve, artificial hip, celluloid film,

transoceanic cable, artificial respirator, kidney transplant, atom bomb, hydrogen bomb, buzz bomb (V2), space rocket, rocket scientist, Mars landing.

Refrigerator, washing machine, dishwasher, dryer, synthetic hormone, the Gold Standard, Prohibition, nylon hose, rayon, Orion, iron lung, polio vaccine, vitamin, aerial crop dusting, Kellogg's Corn Flakes, electron microscope, poison gas, snap opera, comic strip, aer a photo, the Alaskan Gold Rush, strip tease.

Fingerprints, skywriting, the UN Charter, the Berlin Air Lift, the Golden Gate Bridge, integrated circuit, yellow fever vaccine, quinine, eye bank, blood bank, E = MC<sup>2</sup>, PTA.

The Scopes "Monkey" Trial, tubeless tire, nuclear submarine, the "Star Spangled Banner," nuclear power, Selective Service (the draft), parachute, space shuttle, moon walk, radar, Alcatraz, Boulder Dam, Grand Coulee, laser, Boys Town, the Titanic, the Andrea Doria, Grant's Tomb, insulin, Girl Scouts, LSD, rubber heel.

"Durns and Allen," "Amos and Andy," Barnum and Bailey, tape recorder, the

London Blitz D-Day VE Day VJ Day jet plane, Social Security, the Panama Canal, "Black Tuesday" food rationing, the Russian Revolution, the rise and fall of the USSR, "Indy 500" passenger pigeon, "Abbott and Costello," Penn Station, "Blondie," the Empire State Building

The San Francisco Earthquake Yalta the Lusitania, the Hindenburg King Tut's Tomb, penicillin, and literally thousands of other inventions, innovations, discoveries, improvements, entertainment and events Mary has lived them all in her 100 years

Mary also recalls many famous personalities who have gone during her day: Nellie Melba, Kit Carson, King George VI "Buffalo Bill" Cody, J.C. Penny, Geronimo, Henry Ford, Babe Ruth, J. Edgar Hoover, Danny Thomas, Lou Gehrig, Elvis Presley, Clark Gable King George V, Lenin, Queen Victoria, Nasser, Gandhi, Houdini, Archduke Ferdinand, Rocky Marciano, Norman Rockwell, Charles Lindbergh, Gypsy Rose Lee, Churchill, Eleanor Roosevelt, Sergeant York, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Andrew Carnegie, Will Rogers, Jesse Owens, "Wrong Way" Corngan, Pancho Villa, John Dillinger, King Farouk, Krushchev, Ty Cobb.

Miss America, Edgar Bergen, Jimmy Dorsey, Helen Keller "Pretty Boy" Floyd, Al Capone, Frank James, Huey Long, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James, Glenn Miller, Dinah Shore, Guy Lombardo, Lucille Ball, Louis Armstrong, Jean Harlow, Paderewski, John Barrymore, George Bernard Shaw, Al Jolson, Cole Porter, Oscar Wilde, Nelson Eddy, Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, Sally Rand, Fanny Brice, James Joyce.

Ethel Barrymore, Jack London, King Edward VIII, Wally Simpson, Rasputin, Hitler, Mussolini, Carrie Nation, Sun Yat-sen, Stalin, Gloria Swanson, Creta Garbo, Jackie Kennedy, Nat King Cole, Joan Crawford, Arturo Toscanini, Bing Crosby, Jack Benny, Fred Allen, Bebe Davis, Edward R. Murrow, Eve Arden, Kate Smith, Golda Meir, Audrey Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Gary Cooper

Joe Lewis, Henry Fonda, Liberace, "Fats" Waller, John Wayne, Carole Lombard, Marilyn Monroe, Tarzan, Judy Garland, John D. Rockefeller, Nelson Rockefeller, Chet Huntley, Yul Brenner, Woodie Guthrie, James Cagney, Ernest Hemingway, Amelia Earhart, Walter Brennan, Rudy Vallee, Clara Bow, Betty Boop, Alfred Hitchcock, Leonard Bernstein.

George Wallace, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Albert Einstein, George and Ira Gershwin, Ed Sullivan, Groucho Marx, Buster Keaton, Helen Hayes, Lillian Gish, Charles Atlas, Hedy Lamarr, Ray Bolger, Grace Kelly, Rock Hudson, Maria Callas, Humphrey Bogart, Rudolph Valentino and on and on.

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### EXTRA HELP FOR BRITISH ANCESTRY

A free booklet called Tracing Your Ancestors In Britain is available from the British Tourist Authority. An extra surprise a few weeks later you will receive a "bundle from Britain" containing a full sized map of Great Britain and another of London, plus lots of good information for the traveler. Write to the British Tourist Authority, World Trade Center 350 Figueroa St., Dept. 323, Los Angeles, CA 90071 1203, asking for the free booklet. Include a legal size SASE.

.. The Chisholm Trail

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There would be fewer problems with children if they had to chop wood to keep the TV set going.



## They Didn't Have A Welfare Program **You Don't Have to Feel Sorry For Our 'Poor' Forefathers**

A government spokesman who was a former college professor was on television extolling the blessings of the federal welfare program.

The speaker was jubilantly crediting the modern American federal bureaucratic expanding social programs with "saving underprivileged from poverty, malnutrition, and possibly starvation," and went on to say "without the welfare aid a fourth of the nation's population would soon become homeless persons."

It can be acknowledged that a government aid program in certain limits can be beneficial.

But it is remembered that this country was developed and expanded by mostly small farmers who as pioneers were poor and had to make their own way without government loans, subsidies and welfare programs.

These pioneers, their children and grandchildren who followed had to make their own way. They planted gardens, fruit trees and vines. They had milk cows, brood sows and pigs. They had chickens in the yard that produced an abundance of eggs.

There were nuts and berries growing wild, and fish were in the streams, and all they had to do was to hunt and trap for the rabbits, possums, fat gray squirrels, deer and quail.

When the family sat down to partake their meals, they bowed their heads as the father gave thanks for the blessings received (without the benefit of a welfare program.)

A typical meal for these "poor" pioneer families is described by an article in the *Ilwambe* (Miss.) Historical Society quarterly as follows: slab of home cured ham swimming in red-eye gravy, crisp fried chicken or a baked hen or turkey stuffed with corn meal, roasted ears of corn, lima beans, okra, gumbo, red ripe tomatoes, turnip salad with pot likker crammed with real vitamins, golden yams, hot biscuits covered with real butter, corn pones made from stone ground corn meal, pear preserves cooked in long-sweeting apple-dumplings, aromatic with home grown spices and large giblets filled with rich sweet milk that had been churned in the spring, and there was also cool buttermilk.

After the meal there would be cold melons or fruit brought up from the storm cellar, and maybe a glass of scuppernong wine - or a cup of coffee lumpy with chicory for father and mother. (the only store bought item on the menu.)

There would be seven or eight well nourished children, all who worked to help raise the garden, grow the crop, care for the livestock and do the canning and preserving. Everyone had a task to do.

They had a cotton field or tobacco patch or corn crop to bring in a little money. Also, sale of produce, cattle, hogs and chickens brought in some cash.

Probably once a year around Christmas, the mother would go to the general store and buy new overalls, cloth to make a new Sunday-go-to-meeting dress. Perhaps get trinkets and sweets for Christmas for the younger children.

Most often they traded a side of meat, bushel of peaches, basket of eggs or couple dozen jars of fruits or vegetables when they needed a pair of shoes or hat, or coffee, sugar, salt or gun bullets, etc.

The whole pioneer family went to church on Sunday and attended all day.

sings and revival meetings in the afternoon.

The family spent evenings at home with the open fire places and shared together the pleasure and pastime with music, singing and family games.

The pioneers being poor had small houses, probably a three or four room log-bodied house. They had multiple beds in a room and no complaints about privacy.

They were early to sleep for early rising. They slept in deep feather beds that caressed their sturdy bodies for a sound healthful sleep.

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You don't have to feel sorry for our forefathers because they were poor. They didn't have a government welfare program to take away their initiative..they took pride in taking care of their own selves.

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## You Can Have Your Dial Or Touch Tone Telephones, Give Me 'Miss Lillie'

By Preston B. Moses

Telephones with switchboard and operator were installed in Chatham in 1890. About a dozen families were subscribers to the new modern phone service.

The phone company started with two young boys who were employed as operators (the operators were called "central"). Jack Hunt, 14, was on the day shift and Henry Petty, 15, was on at night, and they alternated from month to month.

By 1912 the number of telephone connections in town had tripled to 36 and Mrs. Lillie White Walker was employed as the adult operator (central) for the switchboard.

"Miss Lillie" as everyone called her was a boom for the phone company. She was accommodating with a sweet soft voice that sounded so friendly.

Anyone could pick up the phone and ask: "Miss Lillie, what time is it?" In her sweet voice she'd readily reply, "The correct time is - (whatever time it was at that moment).

The residences and business places were assigned phone numbers starting with number 1 for Thompson Drug Store and on down the line.

If you wanted to call somebody, you didn't bother to look up the number - you'd just say: "Miss Lillie, ring Jones Drug Store."

If the town fire bell alarm sounded, you'd pick up the phone and ask "Miss Lillie, where's the fire?" and she'd always give you the answer.

Should you make a call to Mrs. Stutz, Miss Lillie might tell you, "She's not at home, she is gone to the doctor," thus you would know where Mrs. Stutz was on that morning.

Almost all residential phones were on party lines "back then," meaning two or three different residents were connected to the same telephone lines and all ring at the same time. You distinguished a call for your residence by the number of rings. For instance, my residence phone had two long rings and one short ring. My neighbor had two short rings and one long; the third party phone had three short rings.

It wasn't uncommon for all three parties on the line to pick up when the phone rang -- and of course listen in. This may be the reason neighbors did more

visiting back then, especially when they wanted to avoid trading gossip over the party lines.

The phone company hailed it as progress when the manual switchboard with "central" were replaced by the modern dial system in 1939.

The telephone lines had extended into the surrounding rural areas and the Chatham exchange increased to over 2,500 phone connections.

We old-timers didn't take to the mechanical phones so quickly. They required having to look up the number to go through the cold exacting process of dialing to make a call!

If I were asked, I'd tell you I wish we could get "Miss Lillie" back.. we miss her personal touch with her friendly, sweet voice when we made phone calls before the dial system was installed.

Of course, I know she spoiled us by being ready to tell us the correct time when asked ..or tell us where the fire was when the alarm sounded ..or tell us if Mrs. Stutz wasn't home when calling her ..or put a call through without having to remember the phone number.

And if asked, Miss Lillie would even tell you if you had a phone call while you were down town doing your shopping and most likely she'd tell you who was calling.

The modern touch tone and rotary dialing phones just don't provide that sort of human personal service.

Yep, you can have em, give me "Miss Lillie."

\*\*\*\*\*

### TEXAS JUSTICE IN 1838

In a trial in the court of Houston, TX in 1838, a man named Jamie Adams, charged with larceny, was found guilty and required to restore to Luren Ramsey \$294, the amount stolen from him, and was given 39 lashes by the sheriff on his bare back in a public place, and Adams was branded on his right hand with the letter T (thief).

\*\*\*\*\*

Until 1786, all children born in Virginia, regardless of church affiliation, were required to be baptized in the Episcopal Church, which was the state church. Parish registers giving names, date of birth and names of parents are in the Virginia State Library, Richmond.

- - Rabbit Tracks, CA.

\*\*\*\*\*

It used to take a bale of cotton to make a lady's dress. Now a silkworm can do it on its lunchbreak.

\*\*\*\*\*

Retirement is when your bank account empties and your medicine cabinet fills up.

\*\*\*\*\*

Inflation - when you have too much of the month left over at the end of your money.

\*\*\*\*\*

A pessimist is someone who feels bad when he feels good and fears he will feel worse when he feels better.

\*\*\*\*\*

Nostalgia is longing to go back to the good old days when you were neither good nor old.

# MARRIAGES OF PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VA

*(Taken from original bond, consent or minister's return)*

ADAMS, William - 15 Aug 1791 - to Fanny MEACHUM dau. of Marc MEACHUM who consents Sur John WRIGHT Married 15 Aug 1791 by Rev Richard ELLIOTT who lists bride as Fanny MITCHAM

ADKERSON, Henry 7 Oct 1799 to Elizabeth ROSSETT Sur William REYNOLDS (Signer of Consent illegible)

ADKINS, Abner - 16 Mar 1792 - to Barbary CRIST Sur Samuel READ

ADKINS, Drury 5 May 1805 to Susanna PRICE, dau. of William PRICE, Sr Sur John PRICE

ADKINS, John 19 Dec 1796 to Sally OWEN. Sur Wm. OWEN. Married 22 Dec 1796 by Rev. James TOMPKINS.

ADKINS, Lewis 18 Feb 1799 - to Susanna KEEZEE. Sur. John KEEZEE. Lewis signs bond as ATKINSON.

ADKINS, William 9 Dec 1805 to Betsy THACKER. Sur. Joseph THACKER Married 12 Dec 1805 by Rev. Willis HOPWOOD

ADKINS, Winston - 14 Dec 1798 Mollev ALLEN per Bond; Mollev THACKER per Minister's Return Sur Reuben THACKER Married 15 Dec 1798 by Rev James TOMPKINS

AIRES, Elisha - 13 Feb 1786 - to Lidia OWEN Married by Rev Lazarus DODSON MR

ALLEN, Achilles 16 Mar 1802 - to Polly ROYALL Sur Robert FARGUSON Consent signed by Caty & Jas. ROYALL (no relationship given,

ALLEN, James 16 Dec 1780 to Mary DYER. Sur. Elijah DYER. (Bond gives date of 16 Dec 180- but date is likely 1780, since printed forms were being used by 1800, and this bond is on a handwritten form.).

ALLEN, James 25 Aug 1785 to Cloey VAUGHAN. Sur John VAUGHAN

ALLEN, James 20 Jan 1794 - to Anna COLLIER, dau. of John COLLIER who consents. Sur Ambrose COLLIER. Married 21 Jan 1794 by Rev James KINNEY

ALL SUP, Thomas 2 Mar 1796 - to Alice WILLIAMS Sur John SPURDIN

ANDERSON, Francis 24 Dec 1792 to Sally MOTTLEY, dau. of Joseph MOTTLEY who consents. Sur Ekanah ECHOLS. Married by Rev Matthew BATES whose return is dated 1793.

ANDERSON, John - 13 Nov 1797 - to Sally CALLAWAY, dau. of Charles CALLAWAY who consents Sur Achilles CALLAWAY

*(Contributed by Lucille Payne)*

# May 1995 Queries

(Two to members to and others with similar interests)

Seeking information about Revolutionary War units of Pittsylvania County, VA and about Capt. John BUCKLEY a unit, names of his men, etc. A pension applicant James BUCKLEY, who entered Pittsylvania County to join his unit. BUCKLEY is buried west of Chatham, VA. Write to Archie CALDWELL, 1547 Steward Creek Rd., Murfreesboro TN 37129

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on Sanders (Saunders) WARREN born in 1783. m. Susannah CRADDOCK Jan. 1807 in Pittsylvania County, VA. Believe his father was Henry WARREN who lived in Pittsylvania County and Henry County VA in 1790s. Sanders WARREN is listed in the 1820, 1860 census records in Pittsylvania County. Who were his parents? When and where did he die? Write to Barry Warren, 11802 Carson Road, Mason Neck, VA 22079

\*\*\*\*\*

Want information on Ellen ADKINS b. about 1835-45 and also want information on husband and parents, thought to be ADKINS, however could be HOSKIN. Later married a JACKSON. I need date of birth/date and place. Some information leads me to believe that Ellen married Henry RIGNEY first and that he died during or shortly after Civil War. Also seeking information on William and Virginia GALLDEN daughter Fannie A. married about 1895 to Robert WALKER. Seek information on William and Virginia GALLDEN, date of M/D and place. Also date of marriage of other children. Write to James N. MCGHEE, 6076 Shallowhall Drive, Benton, TN 38135.

\*\*\*\*\*

I wish to get information on the parents of Nancy FORD, m. July 26, 1803 to Joseph REYNOLDS Sr. who was son of Hugh REYNOLDS and Mary Nealey REYNOLDS of Tommyhawk Creek area. Among Nancy Ford REYNOLDS' children were Darnass Reynolds NAPIER and Nancy Booker Reynolds ADKINS (Nancy died 1847). Write to Lillian Mahan HABERMANN, Center Street, Wood Ridge, NJ 07075.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking data about the family of James SHELTON, son of Ralph SHELTON Jr. and Mary DANIEL, who had 3 sons, Roderick, Thomas, James, Joseph, John, Mark, Anderson, Frederick, Jarrett, Porter, George, William and David. Is Mark SHELTON, b. 1786, m. 1805 in Adair Co., Ky., d. 1853 in Giles Co., Tenn. one of these sons? Mark SHELTON's wife was Susannah LUTTRELL, daughter of Michael LUTTRELL and Anne SHELTON. Anne She son LUTTRELL was the daughter of another James SHELTON who died in Lincoln Co., TN in 1815. I need the parents for this James SHELTON, who had sons Vardaman, Peter, Hermann and James Jr. daughters Sarah wife of Nathan LUTTRELL, Clary wife of Jesse LUTTRELL, Letty wife of Charles DUNCAN, and daughter who married Benjamin HUDSON. I will exchange information. Frank TATE Jr., 303 Elm Street, Puleask, TN 38478. (615) 363 1332.

\*\*\*\*\*

In trying to determine the relationship of the several DALTON families that came into Orange and Lawrence Counties, Indiana from about 1818 to 1824 we have done some "Educated Guessing." All of these early Indiana DALTONS have birth places of Virginia. We have located DALTON boys (brothers?) David and Bradley who married ROBINSON sisters. David married Sarah ROBINSON 27 September 1779, Bradley married Dolly ROBINSON 3 October 1782, in Louisa County, Virginia. Sarah and Dolly were the daughters of William ROBINSON. Since ROBINSON is a common given name among the Indiana DALTONS we feel they might all be the children of David and Bradley. The Indiana

**DALTONS** who came via the Rome County area of Tennessee and possible NC before that: William Robinson **DALTON** (may have gone by "Robinson") married Elizabeth; John **DALTON** married Jane "Jeannie" **PHIPPS**; Bradley **DALTON** married Nancy **NEAL**; Mourning **DALTON** married Menant **LANGFORD**; Samuel "Hyson" **DALTON** married Hannah **BALL**; William **DALTON** (Sr.) married Rebecca **EVANS**. The allied families: **ROBINSONS**; **EVANS**; **BROOKS**; **NEAL**; **LANGFORD**; Bradley may have migrated to Indiana with the **DALTONS**. Will share Indiana **DALTON** descendants. Margaret **BAKER**, 151 E. Harrison St. #7, Orleans, In. 47452-2103.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on William (Buck) **WALLACE** who may be the brother of Jesse **WALLACE**. He was born about 1807 in Pittsylvania Co., VA and died 13 Feb. 1880 in Ottumwa Wapello Co IA. His wife is Rachael ? born in VA about 1811 and died in Ottumwa Wapello Co IA. They had 10 children: Nancy A., William Harrison, James M., George, Francis A., John, David and Sarah who are twins, Andrew and Margaret Elizabeth. Kathleen **KOEPP** 2368 Magda Circle Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on the **WALLACES** who were born in Pittsylvania Co., VA between 1800 and 1830. They are David, William James and Jesse **WALLACE**. Other siblings may include Woodson, Nancy, Jane and Elizabeth **WALLACE**. The brothers later bought property in Gallia Co. and Gallipolis Ohio between 1835 and 1840. Would like to prove their relationship, find the names of their parents and the rest of the children. Kathleen **KOEPP**, 2368 Magda Circle, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

\*\*\*\*\*

I want to correspond with those researching the **RICHARDSON** family especially as they marry with the **HUNT** family: Sarah **RICHARDSON** m. Elijah **HUNT**, about 26 Sept. 1761; and Nancy **RICHARDSON**, who married Elijah's brother David Hunt, about 1765, all in/ around Halifax Co., VA. Write to Robert **HUNT**, 105 Coral Reef Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445.

\*\*\*\*\*

Can anyone provide me with a sample of the signatures of (a) Daniel Robert **HUNT**, citizen of Pittsylvania Co. and father of D.R. **HUNT**, Roanoke City Commissioner of Revenue, and (b.) the Daniel R. **HUNT** who was a Justice of the Peace in Pittsylvania Co. in the 1860s? I believe they are the same person and need documentary evidence to prove it. Also, I would like to correspond with any new members who research or are kin to the **HUNT** family, especially those of Pittsylvania Co. Write to Robert **HUNT**, 105 Coral Reef Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking information about Joshua **WATTS**, b. 1780 and married Sarah **WRIGHT**, daughter of Thomas **WRIGHT** c. 1794. Left Pittsylvania County after 1820 and is shown on 1830 census in Wilkes Co., N.C. Write to Sandra D. **WATTS**, P.O. Box 304, Boomer, N.C. 28606.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking information concerning John M. **Hudson** and descendants of about 1770. I believe I may be one of his descendants by marriage of his children that occurred about 1800. Write James M. **Hudson**, 102 Country Club Drive, SW, Leesburg, VA 22075.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on Capt. John **Dix** and 1st Lt. William **Wilkerson** who were soldiers and residents of Pittsylvania County VA during the American Revolution. William **Wilkerson** m Sally **Dix** 30 July 1779. Will gladly exchange information with others who are researching the **Dix** and **Wilkerson** families. Write to Lois (Jennings) **Johnson**, 7887 S. Forest St., Littleton, CO 80122-3836.

## (QUERIES -- CONTINUED)

Need proof if Mary who married John Williams in 1809 Mercer Co., KY was a sister to Thomas and Aaron Hutchings/Hutchenson. Their sons Hutchings, Williams, Thomas and Aaron. They married Blagrove sisters, Nancy and Tabitha. Thomas Married 29 Aug. 1785 in Pittsylvania County, VA. Aaron married 27 December 1781 in Lunenburg Co., VA. He was in Mercer Co., KY by 1795 tax list. Will be glad to correspond with anyone. Write to Helen Alcott, P.O. Box 254, Millersburg, TN 46543.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on John Pryor, wife Elizabeth, sons - Green and Peter. John died in Pittsylvania about 1797, Elizabeth married Hendley Stone and sometime before 1810 moved to Williamson, TN. John owned two slaves Simon and Easter who are my ancestors. Write to Dorothy J. French-Green, 6942, S. Clarendon Ave., Chicago, IL 60636.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MEMBERS WRITE LETTERS

The Packet just keeps getting better and better! One thing I enjoy are the quotations you include. Recently, I came across one that I think you might enjoy: "All America lies at the end of the wilderness road, and our past is not a dead past but still lives in us. Our forefathers had civilization inside themselves, the wild outside. We live in the civilizations they created, but within us the wilderness still lingers. What they dreamed, we live. What they lived, we dream." - (T.K. Whipple) From Sue Kottwitz, Bittersweet Ridge Farm, Route 1, Box 50, Falcon, MO 65470.

I really enjoyed the latest issue of The Packet. I appreciate your work. I wish I lived close enough to participate in the work of your society. Mrs. Harold Miller, 1684 Firth Road, Inverness, IL 60067.

Find check for membership in Pittsylvania Historical Society. Both my wife and I are looking forward to retiring on our lot on Leesville Lake, not very far from Chatham, VA. We currently live in New Jersey. We are very interested in the Virginia history, our future home. Walter and Ellen Sison, 10 Madison Ave., Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034.

I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed The Packet! I wish to get several copies of The Packet to mail to my sister in Iowa and my niece in Alaska. Mary Ruth Edwards, Chatham, VA.

I really enjoy The Pittsylvania Packet and look forward to each issue. I especially enjoy the articles about the people and events in times past. Also I am sorry to read that you will be retiring in May as PHS President and Editor of The Packet. May I say you have done an excellent job. Janet M. Farris, 138 Lexington, St., Valparaiso, Indiana 46383.

I look forward to receiving The Packet and am pleased to be a member of the Pittsylvania Historical Society. I will make an effort to attend the quarterly meeting of the society in May. Barry Warren, 11802 Carson Rd., Mason Neck, VA 22079.

Is there anyone who has any knowledge of the famous old Franklin and Pittsylvania RR (F & PRR)? I am especially anxious to get pictures of the F&P engines and rolling stock, and the RR company logos, such as are found on

documents. Robert Hunt, 105 Coral Reef Dr., Goose Creek, SC 29445.

Thank you for sending me sample copies of *The Packet*. They are most interesting. I have been researching my family tree. My third great-grandfather came to Wilkes County, N.C. from Pittsylvania County, VA around 1830. Incidentally, I hope to visit your town this summer, Sandra Watts, P.O. Box 304, Boomer, NC 28606.

Since my ancestors settled in Pittsylvania Co., VA in the late 1700s, I think your publication can be of help to me. Glenn (Scip) Boaz, 4610 NW Redwood Dr, Topeka, KS 66618.

I saw your notice in the 1995 Directory of Locality Periodicals of the Everton's Genealogical Helper. I am sending in for my membership. I have been researching the Oakes, Rigney, Gauldin and Warren families for several years. I am willing to exchange information with anyone in the area if they are interested. Mrs. Virginia Oakes has been most helpful and we correspond often. James N. McGhee, 6076 North Shallowhill Drive, Bartlett, TN 38135.

Thanks for your warm welcome into your society, and check is enclosed. My connection with Pittsylvania County is through great-grandparents - Rowden, Adams, Pigg and Everett, Billy J. Gullett, 316 Old School Rd., P.O. Box 79, Hawkins, TX 75765.

I am receiving *The Packet*. I find it very informative, and I'm looking forward to a long association with the PHS. I would like to correspond with anyone having knowledge of the Warrens of Pittsylvania County from 1760 to 1880. Barry Warren, 11802 Carson Road, Mason Neck, VA 22079.

Thanks for the great Civil War material published recently in *The Packet*. I did a talk to three high school classes recently and used the material from *The Packet* in my talks.

Incidentally, I am still looking for information on James Green who married Sally Harris in 1806 in Henry County, VA but lived in Pittsylvania County, VA. Gero Castle McNernsey, 2612 East Avenue Emile Zola, Phoenix, AZ 85032.

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## THE PACKET - Box 1206 - Chatham, VA 24531

THE PACKET is the quarterly publication of the Pittsylvania Historical Society for members and those who are interested in the history of their families and the area in which they live.

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